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CLAIMS

1.   A method of synchronization for use in a distributed data processing system comprising: at least one legacy computer having means for storing a master version of data, a first non-legacy computer having means for supporting synchronization, and a second non-legacy computer having means for storing a copy of said master version of data and means for executing at least one operation on said copy, said method comprising the steps of:

executing, by said second non-legacy computer, said at least one operation on said copy,

sending, by said second non-legacy computer, said at least one operation to said first non-legacy computer,

executing, by said first non-legacy computer, said at least one operation on said master version at said at least one legacy computer,

determining if said executing step is successful, and

in response to a successful executing step, synchronizing said master version by applying said at least one operation.

2.   A method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the step of: sending, by the second non-legacy computer, a synchronization protocol to the first non-legacy computer.

3.   A method as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2, wherein said at least one operation comprises two or more operations and said operations are executed by said first non-legacy computer sequentially.

4.   A method as claimed in any preceding claim, further comprising the step of sending, by said first non-legacy computer, the results from said executing said at least one operation on said master version step and a new copy of the master version of data.

5.   A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein in response to an unsuccessful executing step, the master version is not synchronized.

6.   A distributed data processing system for synchronization comprising: at least one legacy computer having means for storing a master version of data, a first non-legacy computer having means for supporting

synchronization, and a second non-legacy computer having means for storing a copy of said master version of data and means for executing at least one operation on said copy, said system further comprising:

5   means for executing, by said second non-legacy computer, said at least one operation on said copy,

          means for sending, by said second non-legacy computer, said at least one operation to said first non-legacy computer,

10   means for executing, by said first non-legacy computer, said at least one operation on said master version at said at least one legacy computer,

15   means for determining if said executing step is successful, and

          means, responsive to successful determination, for synchronizing said master version by applying said at least one operation.

20   7.   A system as claimed in claim 6, further comprising: means for sending, by the second non-legacy computer, a synchronization protocol to the first non-legacy computer.

       8.   A system as claimed in claim 6 or claim 7, wherein said at least one
25   operation comprises two or more operations and said operations are executed by said first non-legacy computer sequentially.

       9.   A system as claimed in any of claims 6 to 8, further comprising means for sending, by said first non-legacy computer, the results from
30   said means for executing said at least one operation on said master version and a new copy of the master version of data.

       10.   A system as claimed in claim 6, wherein in response to an unsuccessful determination, the master version is not synchronized.

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       11.   A computer program comprising computer program code means adapted to perform all the steps of claims 1 to 5 when said program is run on a computer.